

SEA/2702

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the **Abstract** with the following **Abstract**:

A substrate for use in a data storage system is disclosed. The substrate includes at least one core layer comprising at least one plastic or plastic composite material having exhibiting a modulus of about 350 kpsi or greater, and [The plastic composite material may be filled with viscoelastic] damping agents, [anisotropic] reinforcing agents, or combinations thereof. The damping agents, reinforcing agents, or combinations thereof, are substantially uniformly distributed within the plastic or plastic composite material. Optionally, one or more skin layers are disposed adjacent the at least one core layer.